

MACOMB COUNTY



Defining Business+Life

"Macomb County is at the center of the economic transformation in Michigan."

Detroit News, December 5, 2005

What do location, partnership and community spirit have to do with business?

Everything!

Macomb County—one of Michigan's fastest-growing and best-managed jurisdictions—offers a winning combination of prime property, business-friendly private and public partnerships, and an eclectic mix of experiences that make a community home.

We can help bring your business to its next level of success.



LOCATION? LOCATION? LOCATION?

Absolutely!

Selecting a new place to relocate or expand a business is as time consuming a process as it is critical. So many variables to consider: site specifications...infrastructure...financing...local incentives...workforce availability...and then, the little extras that help to keep employees and their families happy.

Finding the right balance is the key to success. We are here to help.

We are the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development. We help businesses analyze their needs and find solutions. Our goal is to move you to a ribbon-cutting ceremony—or, more importantly, “job one”—faster than anyone else.

Our connections to a highly effective and powerful network of partners make it possible for us to provide:

- Assistance in finding suitable properties—based on your specifications—for purchase or lease
- Access to capital through public and private financing tools
- Guidance for moving through the permitting processes quickly
- Consultation regarding a variety of tax incentive packages and assistance in securing them
- Links to pertinent (and often cost-free) workforce training programs

As regional headquarters for the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center, we can provide free and confidential counseling with certified business consultants. We also have an in-house export specialist who can provide expert assistance in foreign trade.



Macomb County

Macomb County is a desirable place for all sectors of industry not only because of its business-friendly services but also for its proximity to other major economic markets.

Businesses in Macomb County are within **500** miles of half the population of the United States and Canada—our country’s largest trading partner.

Macomb County is located in the heart of southeast Michigan, where the transportation network is second to none:

- Access to three major interstate highways provides ease of travel in all directions
- Detroit Metropolitan Airport is less than an hour drive from any door
- An extensive rail system—and available rail-served sites along it—makes transporting product a breeze
- Proximity to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway, the world’s most cost-effective way to move freight
- Two of the country’s main gateways to Canada (and the eastern United States) are an average **30** miles from the center of the county

Land which is appropriately zoned, easily developed and fully serviced is abundant and affordable in Macomb County. A proactive brownfield redevelopment program—with EPA-funded site assessment financing available—makes the reuse of existing properties an extremely cost-effective alternative.

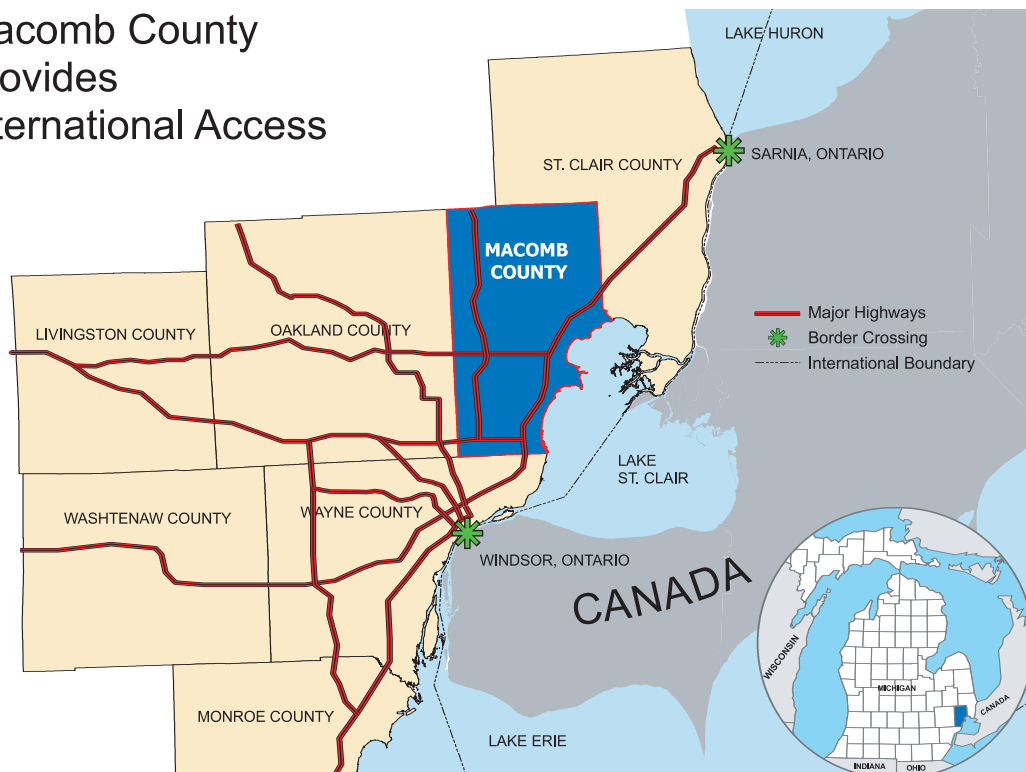
The top three employers in the county are General Motors, DaimlerChrysler and Ford Motor Company. However, 95% of all businesses in Macomb County employ fewer than 50 people.

While manufacturing is an important component of the overall economy, there are more than **30,000** professionals in engineering, research and development employed in the county. Each day, they discover smarter and more efficient ways to serve the automotive, aerospace, defense, medical and consumer product industries.

Major domestic and international corporations include:

- General Motors Technical Center
- Major manufacturing facilities of DaimlerChrysler and Ford
- Headquarters for General Dynamics Land Systems Division
- The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) and the National Automotive Center
- KUKA Welding and Automation (Germany)
- Faurecia (France)
- Grupo Copo (Spain)
- Ogura Corporation (Japan)

Macomb County Provides International Access



WORKFORCE IN MACOMB COUNTY

Running a successful business means more than just having a great idea and a terrific location. It also means having the right people with the skills and determination to get the job done.

Historically, the county has grown in direct correlation to advances in the auto industry. As technology and manufacturing evolved, Macomb County businesses stepped up to provide high-quality, dependable products and services to meet demand.

The result? Generations of hard-working, highly skilled and resilient employees stand ready to embrace the challenges of today's emerging industries. Cutting-edge companies are confidently moving into Macomb County knowing that a competent and ready workforce is in place.

Strength in Education

A strong combination of educational resources provides employers with a competitive advantage:

- Macomb Community College—the state's second largest—offers top-notch programs and access to prestigious institutions through its University Center. MCC also specializes in providing employee-training programs—often grant funded—that can be custom tailored to meet your needs.

“Macomb Community College has been a national leader in its approach to two-year programs, particularly in technical fields.”

Crain's Detroit Business, December 5, 2005

- Major universities—such as Wayne State, University of Michigan and Kettering University—are a quick commute for local students. Satellite campuses for other recognized institutions of higher learning means that thousands of graduates with baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees in business, engineering, finance, human resources, information technology and medical sciences enter the local workforce each year.
- In 2005, 79% of high school seniors surveyed were planning to enter a two- or four-year college program. For others, our high schools work with local employers to customize vocational programs that prepare students for immediate entry into today's workforce.

With all of these combined, the diversity of post-secondary experiences provides local employers an extremely competent local workforce.



MACOMB COUNTY= GOOD GOVERNMENT

Macomb County is one of Michigan's fastest-growing and best-managed jurisdictions. We stand ready to partner with your business to help it grow.

Based on a belief that taxpayers should "keep more of what they earn," the county is committed to maintaining one of the lowest tax rates in all of southeast Michigan.

Wall Street Approval

With a diverse and growing economy, strong financial management and purposefully low debt burdens, Macomb County has earned the highest possible ratings from **two** of Wall Street's most prestigious credit rating agencies. Triple-A distinction from both Moody's Investors Services and Standard & Poor's places Macomb County head and shoulders above most. Only **34** counties (of **3,066**) in the United States can make this claim.

Consistently a leader in landing national "good government" awards for programs and services, Macomb County is committed to providing efficient and meaningful programs that vastly improve the overall state of the county.

Inter-connectivity

Broadband connectivity is available in all but the most rural locations and the county is carefully evaluating the best system for providing secure, reliable and affordable wireless access to the Internet.

Community Safety

A county-wide inter-operable radio system—connected to the state's top-rated system—makes it possible for public safety personnel to be connected when it matters most.



Good management is good government and good government makes for a great business environment.



MACOMB COUNTY QUALITY OF LIFE

The little things that keep employees
and their families happy

Measuring **482** square miles, Macomb is the third most populated county in Michigan with nearly **825,000** residents. Each day, an average of **19** newcomers make Macomb County their home. Why? There are lots of reasons...

Housing

Macomb County has—by far—the most affordable residential real estate in the region. Options for every preference are available: high-end luxury estates; sprawling country homes to historic rural villages; family-friendly suburbs and sleek urban lofts.

Nearly 79% of homes in Macomb are occupied by owners—more than in any other county in Michigan.

Top-Rated Public Schools

Many of our schools have been awarded the coveted “Blue Ribbon” distinction and provide progressive education in safe and modern facilities.

Boating

With **31** miles of Lake St. Clair shoreline and lots of inland waterways, it is no wonder that more than **47,000** county residents are registered pleasure craft owners.

Green Space

Macomb County is home to more than **130** parks covering **12,000** acres which offer a wide range of all-season activities. Nearly **50** miles of trails provide safe and scenic places to hike, bike and horseback ride. You’ll find more than **40** public golf courses here.

Shopping

Retail centers occupy more than **19** million square feet including three regional centers, six old-fashioned downtowns, nearly **40** farmers markets, and a multitude of farms and orchards that offer “pick-your-own” produce.

Health Care

Six hospitals provide nearly **1,400** beds with top-rated centers specializing in cardiac care, cancer treatment and orthopedic surgery.

Places to Go and Things to Do

World-renowned performers are featured at several major venues and hundreds of smaller establishments feature live entertainment. More than **2,100** restaurants serve up dining experiences for every taste. More than **50** other places of interest to visit including historic sites, museums and art galleries.



PARTNERSHIP WITH BUSINESS

In **2004**, Macomb County lead the region in new construction related to industrial research and technology development with nearly **2.3** million new square feet added.

In the past three years, clients working with the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development have invested nearly **\$500** million in new plants and equipment and created or retained more than **4,000** jobs. Clearly, our ability to partner with local, national and global business helps to simplify what might otherwise be a very complex process.

Ready to explore the possibilities?

With numerous awards for excellence from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) and the National Association of Counties (NACo), our seasoned staff of professionals is ready to help get your company moving in the right direction.

We offer a variety of services for businesses large and small including detailed information on available industrial and commercial buildings countywide as well as assistance in identifying and securing state and local financial incentives.

Contact us for all of your business needs. We would be happy to show you around!

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